

MESSAGE FORM

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George A. Carver, Jr.
DCI/SAVA

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15 August 1970

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RYBAT

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(1) PJR JES

D F

1. CURRENT NON PROGRESS OF GVN'S BASIC ECONOMIC QUOTE
LOI CADRE UNQUOTE HAS BEEN PRINCIPAL TOPIC AT LAST TWO
SULLIVAN COMMITTEE MEETINGS. AS YOU KNOW AND HAVE REPORTED
IN DETAIL, ENABLING ACT IS STALLED IN SENATE WHICH MOST UNLIKELY
TO DO ANYTHING WITH IT UNTIL FALL, AFTER ELECTIONS. TOPIC HAS
GENERATED BRISK CABLE EXCHANGE, INCLUDING EMBTEL 12765 WHICH
REPORTED BUNKER'S 8 AUGUST SESSION WITH THIEU. FYI ONLY, THAT
CABLE GENERALLY READ IN WASHINGTON AS STRONG INDICATION, DESPITE
ITS LEAD PARAGRAPH, THAT THIEU IN NO RUSH AND THAT THIEU WAS
SIMPLY LISTENING POLITELY TO WHAT AMBASSADOR HAD TO SAY, NOT
COMMITTING HIMSELF TO EARLY ACTION. IN THE JAUNDICED EYES OF
MOST WASHINGTON OBSERVERS, THIEU'S ACTION PROMISES REPORTED

CONTINUED.....

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PAGE TWO

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IN THAT CABLE'S PARA 4 WERE ON A PAR WITH THE 1969 PROMISES TO MOVE QUOTE RIGHT AFTER TET UNQUOTE MENTIONED IN ITS PARAGRAPH 3.

2. OTHER PERTINENT TRAFFIC ON THIS PROBLEM INCLUDES STATE 130239, SAIGON 13003, STATE 132048 AND STATE 132902.

3. AT 14 AUGUST NSC VIETNAM COMMITTEE MEETING, SULLIVAN ASKED IF STATION COULD TAKE SOUNDINGS AND FORWARD ITS ESTIMATE OF THE POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY THE GVN'S ACTING ON THESE ECONOMIC MATTERS BY DECREE RATHER THAN WAITING FOR LEGISLATIVE SANCTION. IN THE ABOVE CITED STATE 132902, DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY ASKED EMBASSY'S OPINION ON THIEU'S LEGAL AUTHORITY BUT (AGAIN FYI ONLY) UNANIMOUS VIEW OF COMMITTEE WAS THAT ESTIMATE OF POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF MOVING BY DECREE COULD BE MUCH BETTER DONE BY STATION, WHOSE FEEL FOR LOCAL POLITICAL PULSE IS HELD IN VERY HIGH REGARD BY OUR COLLEAGUES DOWNTOWN. WE AVOIDED COMMITTING YOU TO ANY DEADLINE BUT WOULD

CONTINUED.....

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APPRECIATE AS EARLY A RESPONSE AS IS FEASIBLE.

END OF MESSAGE

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